IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Arindam Datta et al.

Serial No.

TBD

Filed

January 29, 2002

Title

BIODEGRADABLE STENT

Art Unit

3731

Examiner

U. Ho

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

January 29, 2002 (Date of Deposit)

E. Richard Skula

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered

January 29, 2002

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified patent application.

In the Claims:

Cancel without prejudice claims 35-48 and 51-53.

REMARKS

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified patent application which is a Divisional application of commonly assigned, co-pending patent application Serial No. 09/933,059 filed on August 20, 2001.

Claims 35-48 and 51-53 have been canceled without prejudice.

The remaining claims 55 and 54 correspond to the Examiner's Species II contained in the Restriction Requirement issued in the parent case.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to make this amendment of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Arindam Datta et al.

By:

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DATE: January 29, 2002